## AN ODD CITY OF THE BIRDS. A New and Perilous Industry On the Farallen Islands.

EGG GATHERING ON THE CRAGS.

One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Dozes Murre's Eggs for San Francisco-Beard Illustrates Wild Scenes.

(Copyright, 1895, for The Times.)



OR three months every year her eggs in the markets seat, giving preced-ence to the cheaps, larger and hand-semer eggs of the lalifornia Murre, or

saltornia Murre, or guillemet, a sea-bird related to the auk, which breeds in countless thousands upon the Farmands. A new and singular insering of these eggs for the market Italian and Greek fishermen, who their lives in frail fishing boats in scaling the rocky islets for the

eggs of the nurre.

Three clusters of rocky islands of volcanie origin, thirty miles from San Francisco, in the Pacific ocean, form the Farallons, South Farallon being the largest and the only one inhabited. Although of surpassing interest on account of their wild picture-queness and the myriads of birds which there find a summer home, the Farallons are seldom, if ever, visited by the tourists. They are difficult of access, small fishing boats or an occusional out-going

They are difficult of access, small fishing boats or an occusional out-going tog being the only means of transit.

South Farallon is about a mile in length, and half a mile wide, everywhere cut up by jagned bridges, precipitous bluffs, pinnacles and rocky points, the highest, where the lighthouse is situated, being 540 feet above the sea. The whole island may be said a be a verifiable city of the birds, overthe sea. The whole island may be said to be a veritable city of the birds, covering their eggs in dense colonies, swimming and diving or wheeling by thousands through the air with shrill, increasant cries. The bird census there never has been taken.

Besides the murre, which lays the marketable eggs, tufted pufflis, western guils, three species of cornorants, Cassin's anklet, the achy petrel and the pigeon guillaniot breed in large numbers.

ed egg, baving about twice the capacity of a bea's egg. This is curiously any on a hean egg, tribs is curiously and beautifully marked in many shad a of red, brown, green, in surprising variation. The eggs sell resultly at twenty cents a dozen in the markets, and that they are considered valuable as a fool supply, is evidenced by the fact that one hundred and sixty thus and dozen in

In spike of this enormous product the birds seem to be almost as prolific as ever although near the close of a sea-'s collecting, many "runt" eggs are

Two men who were left on Sugar Loaf, an isolated rock 185 feet high, collected one hundred and eight thousand murre's eggs in one season.

The eggers usually consist of twelve to fifteen men, who inspect the great rockeries early in the season to see if the birds have begun laying. When tho time is ready to begin work, a curious, but necessary performance takes place. The whole island is gone over and all the murre's eggs within reach are broken or thrown into the sea. This is to insure fresh eggs, for the eggers maintain that an egg that has been sat upon for a day is unfit for market. This is a time of rejoicing for the sea gulls, who love to feed upon the murre's eggs, and are relentless pirates, robbing the and are relenticss pirates, robbing the poor murro at every opportunity, of the one egg she so zealously guards. Unlike the gull, the murre makes no

whatever, covering its egg en any rock that will support it, for unlisturbed, the murres would of one egg each, during a season,

The collecting outfit of the egger is simple. A cotton flour tack is neede into an "egg shirt," by cutting out a hole in the bottom for the head, and one on each side for arm holes; a gathering string about the mouth of the sack permits it to be drawn tightly about the waist, while a slit down the shirt in front makes an opening for stowing

Sugar Loaf, it being warmer there and more pretected from prevailing winds. This rock is reached by a boat, which is left in charge of one man, while four or five of his companiors scale the dangerous cliffs and collect the eggs about its -precipitous sides. Meanwhile the voracious gulls hover over the men, screaming and cackling for a share of the plunder. This is one of the most difficult places for collecting on the island, and ropes are made fast to enable the hardy Greeks to reach the





THE EGG GATHERER. Farallons. Several bad wrecks have

Parallons. Several bad wreeks have taken place there, and the four or kve light-house keepers who, with their families, make the island their home, have to be eternally vigitant. Besides the first class light, two improved "sirens," or steam fog whistles are used. Years ago, before these were secured, a curious natural siren was utilized. In a curious natural siren was united.

one place the waves wash into a cavern
and rush through a narrow passage in
the rock with such force that a strange
moaning sound is caused by the escaping air. A large horn was placed over

moaning sound is caused by the escaping air. A large horn was placed over the aperture, making undoubtedly the strangest fog horn ever in use. It could be heard far out at sea.

The light-house keepers live in substantial residences, from which a telephone line goes up to the light-house. A track winds around through the rocks from the landing place in Fisherman's Bay, a car being used to carry the oil and government supplies.

Old "Jerry," the island's government mule, is the propelling power, and he enjoys the distinction of being the only quadruped, aside from the rabbits, on the island, A diet of sea guil's eggs and years of solitary contemplation have made him wondrous wise. When he hears the whistle of the government steamer, "Jerry," he knows his services will be demanded to pull the oil car, and straightway he beats a retreat and hides in some cave until he thinks the denger is over.

Among the curious features of the island the sea-lion must not be overlecked, for these immense, roaring creatures cover the rocks by thousands, while others disport themselves in the water. Huge buil sea-lions, weighing from three to five thousand pounds, loil about the rocks indifferently, or with a few premonitory roars amble to the edge of a cliff and shoot into the sea. If they have calves, one or two of the

they have calves, one or two of the



WESTERN GULL, EGG, AND YOUNG

WESTERN GULL, EGG, AND YOUNG.
graat, animated masses of blubber will breally remain to stand guard over them opening their mouth to intimidate the intruder.

The Italians shoot the sea-lion, also a very pretty and graceful "lerbard seal," for their skins. It takes a first class rifle shot to kill a sea-lion, al "hey are vulnerable in one or two spots" only.

Day or night, in the summer time the Farallons are ever animated; the myriads of birds fly to and fro with wild cries unceasingly, while at night the petrels come forth the squalls of the auklet are heard, and over the beating surf and weird, castle rocks, the guils hover with quave ing crier, spreading over the islands in the mooalight like a molten shield of silver.

HENRY REED TAYLOR.

GUARDIAN OF LEE'S TOMB.

"Uncle Tom," His Old Servant, Worship Mr. C. A. Fonerden, of Baltimore, write

to the Sun as follows: "Having spent two days recently in

Lexington, Va., among the hallowed memorials of that ancient town, it then memorials of that ancient town, it then occurred to me how strange it must ap-pear to our Northern brother that the tomb and magnificient recumbent status of Gen. R. E. Lee should be kept and sacredly guarded, as it is, by a colored

man.

"So, too, is General Lee's office, just as he left it, tables, desk, lounge, chairs, table-covers, papers, and letters, and everything, even down to his inkstand and penholders, in personal charge of old Uncle Tom.

"Nor is it an easy task to guard and preserve these venerable relics from the profane and desocrating hand of the relic-hunting vandal.

"Yet with the sharp eye, brave heart and strong arm of the faithful sentinel there remains Uncle Tom, a worthy defender of those things. "May his tribe increase."

increase."

"And now let me report to whom it may concern what Uncle Tom Imparted to me concerning his relationship with that mighty captain of the valorous Confederate hosts. He began by saying in his dialect that he had enjoyed the proud privilege and distinction of being close to the great general in camp-life for four long years, and that never once, in all that trying time, had he ever heard him utter a cross, impatient or improper word to man or beast. It must be admitted that a relationship of so long a period as that is, indeed, close connection, and who would be a closer observer of the great man's character and daily demeanor than that unutured brother of color? No severer critic is a man likely to have than his own valet, body servant or cook; or, at least, the folides and shortcomings of the man of mark could have no greater or more perilous exposure than that to the scrutiny of his servant under conditions such as those in which Uncle Tom served his beloved master, as he is wont to call the great general. 'He was a master and a father to me, too,' said Uncle Tom.

"On one occasion in showing the statue." "And now let me report to whom t

to a party of seventeen Northern ger men he told them, as usual, that his

"On one occasion in showing the statue to a party of seventeen Northern gentlemen he told them, as usual, that his old master was the greatest general in the world and the best man.

"What! Do you, a colered man, say that of this man here in our presence?" asked one of the number.

"Yes, I would say that before ten thousand men, said Uncle Tom, and added: If you all had 'er had him, de wah wooder been over long befo it wus."

"Then one young man in the party said: Yes, he was a good man, Uncle, but he was on the wrong side."

"Thereupon an old soldier, who was present, replied: But how many are there who think to the contrary, and this great man conscientiously thought other-

at not receiving her guests on the lawn she entered a tiny chaise drawn by a pony and made the tour of the grounds. The baroness is a very wonderful old lady, close on eighty years of age, but she begins to feel the hand of time, and copies this original mode of conveyance to relieve her of the fatigue of standing from the Queen, who has a similar pony clusies to go about in. A tail footman holds the pony's bridle and guides the little beast whereever his mistress desires to go. It is said on one occasion the entire equipage mounted the steps of the lodge and landed the baroness within her own hall door.

In the days of King George a gentle-man might ask a lady to be his partner without any previous presentation and they might continue to dance together the whole evening without such behavior heing looked on as peculiar. We read that at the halls the ladies threw down their fans on a table; the gentlemen then approached, each selected a fan and, howing to its fair owner, led her out as his partner.

bowing to its fair owner, led her out as his partner.

In a description of a ball at Paris in 1853 at which Mme. Recamier was pres-ent a visitor expressed his surprise at "the decency with which that very in-decent dance the waltz was danced by the young Parisians."

The waltz, in its original form, had a serious time raining entrance to the

serious time gaining entrance to the British Isles and it was only after it had become largely modified by assimilation with the English country dances that it obtained any recognition at all.

MYSTERIOUS TIMBUCTOO. in the Desert.

In the Desert.

Most of the supplement of a recent rumber of the Paris Figaro is given up to the Niger valley and Timbuctoo. Situated at the gate of the desert, and being the point to which all, the ways of the eastern Sahara converse, the city has been the great mart of the desert and of Central Africa. It has slowly decayed by reason of wars throughout a large part of the territory of which it has been the metropoils. Other things also happened to hasten the decay of this mysterious city, so long closed to Europeans. The security of transactions disappeared in the city itself, and Foulahs and Touarers fought over the right to lay the great market under tribute. Thirty-five years ago the Touaregs had their way, and then began for Timbuctoo a critical period. The highways of the Soudan were never less secure, and never did the commerce of Timbuctoo encounter more difficulties in feeding itself from the territory of which the city had been the chief mart. Never was the city more severely pressed or more subject to exactions. The Touaregs thrashed the city as with a fiall. For the last itwenty-five years they have treated it as a conquered city. The population had nothing to do but to fip before the army of pillagers whom the industry of Timbuctoo supported. The citizens are far from warlike. "We are women," they were not ashamed to say. The emigration from the city has been large. There are left only from 7,000 to 10,000 inhabitants now that the French flag floats over the city. All those left are metchants—men, wemen and children. The men give themselves up to the wholesale trade, the women and children to the retail.

The exterior commerce of Timbuctoe is

the wholesale trade, the women and children to the retail.

The exterior commerce of Timbucteo is divided into two distinct parts, that of the north and that of the south. The caravans of the north, laden with rock sait and European goods, come mostly from Morocco, though a few come from Touat and Ghadames. European merchandise, except the sugar of Marseilles, is of English or German origin. Whits cottonndes, of which there is an immense safe, bear the label of Hamburg. Guinea blue certitutes the basis of the importations of such stuffs. Cloths tinted in red are much sought after in the markets of Timbuctoo. The decoration must be in lines, straight or broken, according to the Arab taste. After stuffs come next in importance paper in reams, tobacco boxes, groceries, pepper, cloves, silk, small pearis for embroidery and larger ones for necklaces, perfumes, knives, needles, acissors, mirrors, girdies, teacups and teapots, tea and sugar. From Morocco come various African products and a few oriental fabrics.

Amber, coral and carnellan also appear din to the retail.

amoer, coral and carnetina also appears in the market of Timbustoo. But rock salt is the cargo of more camels than any other article. It comes from mines in the lesert on the route to Morocco. It is in a thematical forms, weighing from thirty to thirty-five kilograms each, and the African products and a few oriental fabrics.

In December last there arrived at Tim

In December last there arrived at 11m-buctoo 2,000 camels, carrying each about 150 kilograms of merchandise, or in the aggregate about 35 tons. December, Jan-uary and July are the months in which more caravans arrive than at any other time, but they come and go the year round. The caravans of the north never go south of Timbuctoo, while the traders from the south never has beyond the "Thoreupon an old soldier, who was present, replied: But how many are there who think to the contrary, and this great man conscientiously thought otherwise, living and dying a hero in the hearts of his countrymen, with the respect and admiration, too, of the whole North and all the world."

"Thus reinforced Uncle Tom said he enjoyed the speech of that good old soldier, once a brave adversary on the field of blood and strife. Then the young man retorted:

"Well, he got whipped, anyhow."

"Whupt, whupt! blurted Uncle Tom. Does you call it whupt, sah, et when like as you was a goin walkin' frum here to de hotel, a whole parcul ut men woold set upon you and bind you down? Now, dat's de way de General was whupt, sah, and only dat way."

"Then Uncle Tom told me personally that on some occasions, 'de Yankees had two hundred to one.' In telling him that that of Sonewall Brigade, early and late, he became fervently eloquent in laudations, the loudest and most emphatic, of my invincible old commander. "So taking him through and through, and late, he became fervently eloquent in laudations, the loudest and most emphatic, of my invincible old commander. "So taking him through and through and through and through and late, he became fervently eloquent in stitutions than that of Uncle Tom."

Paroness Burdett-Coutts gave a gartelevent love for the South and its institutions than that of Uncle Tom."

Paroness Burdett-Coutts gave a gartelevent love for the great can after the provided at the pro

pottery, breechcloths, calabashes, elephants' tusks, gold and iron in bars.

The commerce of Timbuctoo suffered
greatly after the French occupation of a
year and a half ago, but is now reviving.
The importations from the south in January, 1895, were valued at about \$92,900,
and the expertations northward by caravan amounted, to about \$90,900. A railway from the French possessions southwardly scross the desert of Timbuctoo is
already prophesied.

A Patient Lover. My sweetheart is a treasure, And I love her beyond measure, And each day I have discovered son new and charming trait; But it made me feel the saddest

When I found she was a faddis And that I must be neglected for ca prices up to date. At one time it was Browning,

At one time it was Browning,
Then First Aid to the Drowning,
ten Trying to Discover why Cats Lane
on Their Feet;
Then Bric-a-Brac Collecting,
Then Vices on Vicinating Then Views on Vivisecting. en a dainty kind of slumming in very dirty street.

Goodness knows what next it will be For a long time it was "Trilby," Until unto Napoleon she became a de-

votee; Now it's Joan of Arc and her age; But I try to keep up courage,
For I hope the time is coming when
she'll make a fad of me. —Fuck.



THE ONLY BIG MENAGERIE COMING SEASON. RICHMOND, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPT. 26.

**SELLS BROTHERS'** ous, united BIG SHOW of the WOR

Combined Circus Seasons; the Largest, Oldest and Most Complete Arenic and Zoological Exhibit of the Universe.

3 BIG CIRCUSES! 3 SEPARATE RINGS! ALL NEW, SUPERLATIVE SENSATIONS,

FIVE CONTINENT MENAGEFIE! 50 MAMMOTH CASES! 20 HIPPODROME RACES I

Richmond, Thursday Afternoon, Evening,



and Zoological enterprise in the universe. Noted for its matchless magnitude, mag-

nificence, and merit. Army of artists, 1,000 people, 000 horses and ponies, 300 all-feature acts, 1,000 wonderful sights, 12 monster waterproof tents, 4 special railway trains, \$3,500,000 actually invested to perpetuate its grandeur. Its marvellous Menagerie, embracing every captive beast known to exist; its multitude of features, each one a show alone. One ticket admits to all the combined shows.

UNDER THE LARGEST TENTS EVER CONSTRUCTED .- The greatest Zoological collection in the world, presenting for the first time in this country the only pair of Giant White Nile Blood-Sweating Hippopotami, Educated Alaska Seals and Sea Lions, Performing Kangaroos, Trained Elephant, Lordly Lions, Tigers, Leopards, stately flocks of Ostriches (the first ever publicly exhibited, and marvellous trained, wild, and domesticated animals of all descriptions. Truly the only great and legitimate exhibition of its kind on earth.

THE GRAND, GORGEOUS, STREET PARADE, absolutely eclipsing any pageant ever seen in the public streets, takes place at 10 A. M. on THURSDAY, September 26th. It is over a mile in length. No postponement on account of weather. Two complete performances- afternoon at 2, evening at 8. Doors open one hour earlier. Seating capacity, 12,000. Branch ticket sale at GEO. SCHOEN'S CIGAR STORE, corner Eleventh and Main streets.

Admission to All Combined Shows, 50 Cents. Children Under Nine Years, 25c.

RICHMOMD, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th; Petersburg, Friday, September 27th; Norfolk, Saturday, September 28th.

Special low excursion rates will be issued on all lines of travel.

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Paying, and Be Convinced. | Electric Paste Stove Pollsh, 4c. 6 lbs. Best Granulated Sugar for 25c., Jap brand Roasted Coffee, Java and La-

guayra, in pound papers, best you ever drank. Try it once and you will

Pride of Kitchen Soap, for cleaning,

5c a cake.

One-half pound this La Favorita Baking
Powder, 5c, best you ever used.

Fine Gunpowder Tea, 40c per lb. This

is regular 60c Tea.
Imported Macatoni. Sc per lb.
Good Mixed Tea, 25c per lb.
Pork Shoulders, 6c, per pound.
Large California Prunes, 3 lbs. for 25c,
3 lbs. Fruit Crackers for 25c,
California Hams Sc per lb.

California Hams, Sc per lb. Ship Stuff and Brown Stuff, 90c per hun-

Pound box Best Baking Powder, 10c.

Potted Tongue or Ham, 5c can.

Best City Meal, 58c. per bushel,
Old Rye Whisky, 4 years old, \$2 gal.

Sweet Catawba Wine, 60c per gal.

Good Rye Whiskey, \$1.25 per gal. Snow Flake Patent Family Flour, \$4.00

per bbl, or 25c per sack Silver King, Minnesota, Patent Family, the best sold, \$4.25 per barrel, or 27o

per sack. XXX Fancy Family Flour, \$3.50 a bar-

rel, or 23c. a sack.

Best North Carolina Cut Herrings; 7c
or \$2.50 per one half bbl
3 Cakes Buttermilk Toilet Soap for Sc.

Whole Grain Carolina Rice, 5c per lb. French Mustard, 10c qt.

1 lb. Canned Beef, 12c.
Boneless Hams, 11c per lb.
Gross Herring, \$2.75 per bbl.
4 lb Jar Preserves, 25c.

2 lb Can Corned Beef, 20c. 2 hoop Buckets, 9c. Pure Sugar Syrup, 15c gallon.

use no other-20c lb.

Large 4-String Brooms, 15c. 4 lbs nice Cream Cheese for 25c. Boneless Breast Bacon, 10c per lb. Best Full Cream Cheese 2 lbs for 25c. Pure Old Virginia Cider Vinegar, 20c

Vanilla and Golden Syrup, 30c gallon.

food Green Rio Coffee, 18c. per lb. Graham Wafers, 10c. pound. Condensed Milk, 7c can, Home-Made Jelly, 3c per lb. Home-Made Jeny, Sc per lo.

Large Three-String Brooms, 12c.

Early June Peas. 3 cans for 25c.

3 cakes Butter Milk Soap Sc.

Pure Old Holland Gin. \$2 per gallon.

New Irish Potatoes, 15c peck. Breast Pork, 7tc per lb. Shreded Cocanut, 5c. Large Scrub Brush, 5c. Washing Powders 3c per package. 4 lbs Nice Cream Cheese for 25c. Rockwood Cocoa, 9c can.

Chipped Beef, 15c. lb. Mocha and Java Coffee, 20c lb. It's a fine drink. Try it. Sour Pickles, 20c per gallon. Pure Leaf Lard, 7c lb. West of England Sauce, 10c bottle. Best Oats, 35c per bushel. Oil Sardines. 4c. per box or 7 for 25c. 8 Large Bars Soap for 25c. Fresh Mixed Cakes, 7c per lb. 5 Hayana Cheroots for 5c. Wood Wash-Boards, 8c. Imported Claret Wine, 25c bottle. Best New Crop New Orleans Molasses 40c per gallon. Painted Cedar Buckets, 10c.

Fresh Country Eggs, 12c. dozen, Breakfast Bacon 10c per ib. Pure Lard, 6c per ib. Best Ginger Snaps, 4c. per lb. 4 lbs. Milk Lunch Crackers, 25c Good Soda Crackers, 4c Brass 3-Hoop Cedar Bucket, 18c. Salt Pork, 6 c. lb. Mixed Spices, 20c lb. Sea Salt, for bathing, 2%c. lb. Freezing Salt for Ice Cream, 10c. peck.

Pure Sugar Syrup, 15c gallon.
New Dates, 4c per lb.
Can Salmon, 10c.
Home-Made Stick Candy, 7c per lb.
Nice French Candy, 7c per lb.
Roasted Peanuts, 4c qt.
Large Box Lye 5c.
Large package Stove Polish, 3c.
Sweet Mixed Pickles, 15c. qt.
Mason's Biacking, 2c Box.
Rough and Ready Chewing Tobacco, 3c per plug. Corn Starch, 4c package.
Fresh Rolled Oats 4c per lb.
Large Bottle Essence Lemon and Vanilla, 5c. nilla, 5c.
Nice Fresh Table Butter, 2 lbs. for 25c | Canned Lobsters, 18c per can.

All Mail Orders Promptly and Carefully Filled. Remittance Must Accompany Same. All Goods Guaranteed to give Satisfaction. No Charge for Packing.

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Our New Price-List Mailed on Application. UP-TOWN STORE 506 EAST MARSHALL STREET.

'PHONE 316. 1820-1822 E. MAIN STREET. PHONE 34.



away the eggs. A little of the coarse Farallon weed, the only vegetation to be found on the island, is used for a shirt lining. It is astonishing how many of the large eggs can be carried in such a

chasm, they find a place for their eggs on the shelving rocks. Here, where it would seem to be suicide to follow them, the adventurous eggers risk their necks to gather hundreds of dozens of eggs.

more inaccessible places.

Two of the ergers have lost their lives on this rock One of them fell into the sea and his body was never found. He had unwisely put too many ergs into his shirt, and while crossing a narrow shelf the ergs actually crowded him off.

Other accidents of minor importance occur frequently. One erger, who had

the large eggs can be carried in such a shrt, eighteen to twenty dozen being considered a fair load for each man.

When an egg shirt is filled it is emptted into a basket to be taken to the landing. If overtaken by night, the eggers dump the eggs into a pite, sometimes containing one thousand dozen, until the next day. Great care is used to cover the baskets or heaps with old sacking, or weeds, weighted with rocks, to prevent the rapacious guils from getting at the eggs. These persistent thieves invariably heap about, and if an egg is espied through an opening, they will tug at it until it is secured, when the lucky bird files away with the booty, followed by its screeching comrades, who soon attract a great flight of guils, and often in an incredibly short space of time they have taken every egg.

The egg picking usually begins on

